



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, June 16, 2021  
Meeting Held Electronically**

**PRESENT:** Chair Maryann McAllen, Vice-Chair Kurt Jones, Commissioners Ronald Lehman, Susan McGarry, Teresa Kim Quale

**ABSENT:** Commissioners Alexandra Albert and Eric Kurland

**STAFF:** Community Services Administrator Kira Peters; Managers Nick Molinari, Chris Walsh; Communications Supervisor Ann Porter

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair McAllen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present as indicated above.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no members of the public who submitted comments.

**MINUTES**

Approval of the Regular Meeting minutes – May 19, 2021

COMMISSIONER MCGARRY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MAY 19, 2021 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. VICE-CHAIR JONES SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS LEHMAN AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER QUALE ABSTAINED. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**1. APPOINTMENT TO THE PATHS & TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Commissioner Quale noted that she attended the recent Paths & Trails Subcommittee meeting as a courtesy. She is willing to serve on the committee; however, she is not a cyclist or a user of the City's trail system. She wondered if another Commissioner might be interested. There was no interest expressed by the other Commissioners.

CHAIR MCALLEN APPOINTED COMMISSIONER QUALE TO REPRESENT THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION ON THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION'S PATHS AND

TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE WITH A VOTE OF FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS LEHMAN, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. CHAIR MCALLEN MOMENTARILY LOST ZOOM CONNECTION DURING THE VOTE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

## **2.     MARKETING AND SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE**

Ann Porter, Communications Supervisor, gave a presentation, discussing how her department manages conversations and communications with the public through the NextDoor outlet. NextDoor is a social media app that connects neighbors based on their address. Citizens are able to sign up for a resident account and are able to post comments and have conversations with others within their community.

The City of Scottsdale is a member of NextDoor for Public Agencies, which was designed so that public agencies can send targeted messages to community members. The City is not able to see conversations between citizens in individual neighborhood accounts. City staff is able to directly respond to questions or comments posted in response to information that has been published through the Public Agencies account. Ms. Porter explained that Parks and Recreation falls under the Community Services NextDoor for Public Agencies account because NextDoor limits the number of accounts the City can hold.

Commissioners expressed interest in being kept updated on hot topics discussed on NextDoor.

## **3.     WESTWORLD SPORTS FIELD PROJECT**

Park and Recreation Manager Chris Walsh presented updated information on the WestWorld Sports Fields bond project and requested a recommendation from the Commission to City Council for approval of the Municipal Use Master Site Plan Case #9-UP-2021. His presentation included an overview of the design concepts for the project, project funding, site location, project phasing, and a summary of public comments.

Commissioner Quale expressed interest in seeing the unfiltered public comments.

Vice-Chair Jones declared a conflict of interest on the WestWorld Sports Field Project.

COMMISSIONER LEHMAN MOVED TO RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE MUNICIPAL USE MASTER SITE PLAN CASE #9-UP-2021. COMMISSIONER MCGARRY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, COMMISSIONERS LEHMAN, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. VICE-CHAIR JONES DECLARED A CONFLICT OF INTEREST. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

## **4.     DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kira Peters, Community Services Administrator, gave an overview of the summer recreation programs participation statistics. She noted that there are currently 1,862 registered in aquatics sessions 1 and 2 and 598 are on wait lists. The program focuses on drowning prevention. As of June 11th, the public swim program had 764 registrants. There are 3,633 people registered for leisure education programs and 286 league teams are registered for various activities, including basketball, kickball, flag football, softball, and volleyball.

The summer concert series at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park is averaging around 800 attendees at each event. Due to COVID, attendance this year is being limited and reservations are required. Attendance in past years ranged from 3,000 to 5,000 attendees per event.

Ms. Peters noted that the City of Scottsdale is currently in the moderate COVID community spread category. Once the city reaches a low COVID community spread threshold, consideration will be given to restarting the volunteer program.

Ms. Peters briefly talked about Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) accreditation, noting that the City of Scottsdale has been accredited for over 25 years. Staff is currently planning for the 2024 evaluation. Ms. Peters said she is hoping that the Parks and Recreation Commissioners can be involved in the process this round.

Scottsdale Leadership will be hosting their 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibit beginning on June 25, 2021 in the Scottsdale Heritage connection space at Civic Center Library. The exhibit will coincide with the City of Scottsdale's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Joan Fudala is scheduled to give an in-person presentation on Scottsdale's history at Civic Center Library on June 23, 2021, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Additional information about 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary events can be found on the City's website.

Ms. Peters noted that the Parks and Recreation director position is still in the recruitment process.

## **5. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Vice-Chair Jones noted that he and his family enjoy going to Chaparral Dog Park on a regular basis. He mentioned that the large dog area is all dirt at this time and needs to be switched over to the fresh field. Dry dirt can cause a spread of valley fever. A second issue is that the arm on the gate to the field closest to Hayden Road does not close and there have been several dog escapes from the catch area between the safety fences.

Commissioner Quale said that she was recently at McDowell Mountain Ranch Aquatic Center and enjoyed seeing the children taking lessons.

## **6. POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Possible future agenda items include:

- Presentation of comparison of participation in recreation programs from the past few years and how COVID has affected those numbers.

Commissioners expressed interest in scheduling in-person meetings as soon as possible.

The Parks and Recreation Commission will take a recess for the months of July and August.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

COMMISSIONER LEHMAN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VICE-CHAIR JONES SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS LEHMAN, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

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